(b) if Government is not is a position to offer incentives to the Pharmaceutical Industry, the reasons for not considering price decontrol for those companies which have already set up R&D Centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The existing policy provides for putting outside price control a new drug which has not been produced elsewhere. There is also provision for exempting from price control those drugs in whose case the process is developed through indigenous R&D. In addition, other incentives applicable to all industries, are also admissible to the pharmaceutical sector.

Rivers as National Assets

701. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras High Court has suggested that all the rivers flowing in the country should be declared as 'national rivers'/'national assets';

(b) whether in view of the acute scarcity of water in certain regions of the country, Government is considering this suggestion; and

(c) if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The High Court of Judicature, Madras has not given any order in this regard. While dismissing the Writ Petition No. 6207 of 1983 filed by one Shri K.S. Radhakrishan against Union of India/ State Government of Tamil Nadu/State Government of Kerala and others, the Court referred to a suggestion given by the other Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu late Dr. M.G. Ramachandran in his letter dated 26.4.82 addressed to the Central Government that Government of India should declare all rivers including inter-state rivers as national rivers and bring forward a legislation to ensure proper utilisation of rivers subject to a condition that the entitlement of the States for water as decided upon by the Tribunal shall, on no account, be disturbed by such legislation. The Court observed that "in our opinion the suggestion is worth consideration by the Central Government, particularly in view of the fact that the problem remains unsettled for over two decades and the methods adopted till now have proved unsuccessful".

(b) and (c) The need for maximising availability of water in the country is already enshrined in the National Water Policy adopted in September, 1987. It states "water should be made available to water short areas by transfer from other areas including transfers from one river basin to another, based on a national perspective, after taking into account the requirements of the areas/basins". The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) is already engaged in the task for preparing water balance and feasibility studies for the Peninsular and Himalayan components of the National Perspective.

Linking of Professional Courses

702. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government

has been drawn to the news item under caption 'with bell book and candle, they are shown the door' appearing in 'Indian Express' dated 9th July, 1995; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to link professional courses according to the demand of vacancies stating the reaction of Government with regard there to?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item refers to the course on 'General Insurance' being run in selected schools at the +2 level by General Insurance Corporation. The GIC has delinked the courses from job guarantee from the 1995 examination.

(b) Vocational courses offered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education do not guarantee employment. The objective is to impart employable skills through need based courses. At present about 150 such courses are being offered in six major areas of Agriculture, Business and Commerce, Health and Paramedical, Engineering and Technology, Home Science, Humanities and others.

Wrong inclusion of drugs under Price Control Order

703. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry received a number of representations against the wrong inclusion of certain drugs under Price Control Order 1995;

(b) whether representations against wrong exclusions of drugs have also been received;

(c) if so, what are the names of such drugs and the companies who have submitted representations against inclusions and exclusion of drugs upto 31st July, 1995; and

(d) what is the status of such rugs and what steps his Ministry has taken to dispose off these representations and by when decision on each would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Certain representations have been received against inclusion/exclusion of drugs under price control. Examination of the points raised in these representations is expected to be completed soon.

Directions for the sale of Phosphate and Potash at the Decontrolled rates

704. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have issued any directions to the States and Union Territories to take immediate steps to ensure that the wholesale and retail dealers sell Phosphate and Potash Fertilizers at the previous controlled rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received some complaints regarding the noncompliance of these directives;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (e) No, Sir. No such directions were issued. However, instructions were issued to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations that the scheme of concession for decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers to the farmers will continue during 1995-96 w.e.f. 1st April, 1995 on 1994-95 pattern.